

ASQUITH SAYS KING GEORGE DID NOT INTERFERE

VILLA REPULSED, WITH LOSS OF 500 REBELS

COMPLETE NOVEL
EACH WEEK
IN THE
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REBEL ARMY FORCED BACK; FEDERALS RETAKE OUTPOST IN BATTLE AT TORREON

Gen. Villa Reports His Army Driven Out of Gomez Palacio—Five Hundred of His Men Reported Killed.

JUAREZ, March 25.—The Mexican Federals not only hold Torreón, but have recaptured Gomez Palacio from the Constitutionalists. This was the word received this afternoon from Gen. Francisco Villa himself by Gen. Manuel Chao, Military Governor of the State of Chihuahua.

Villa's despatch stated that a fierce battle was raging around Torreón and Gomez Palacio as his message was filed, both Federals and rebels using cannon and machine guns effectively. The Federals were occupying Gomez Palacio as their base, said the despatch, the rebels using Lerdo and El Verjel as their base.

Villa declared that he has the Federal garrison surrounded and that he was confident of being able to take Torreón and Gomez Palacio within a short time.

His telegram, however, shows that the claims put forth by the rebels here last night that Torreón had fallen were false, and that Gen. Refugio Velasco's troops drove them out of Gomez Palacio either last night or this morning.

A newspaper in El Paso has a despatch from Mexico City that Velasco had telegraphed Mexico City confirming Villa's statement that he had recaptured Gomez Palacio and had also recaptured Matamoros.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The Mexican Embassy has received the following cablegram from the City of Mexico, dated last night:

"The rebels were repulsed today in an attempt to reach Torreón. Gen. Velasco well prepared for attack."

"Fighting is in progress this morning in the outskirts of Torreón."

This was the text of a message from the south given out officially here to-day. There were no details and official prophecy was readjusted to the effect that it might be several days before the Federal stronghold could be taken.

BERMUEJILLO, Mexico, March 25.—(By Courier to El Paso, March 25).—Rebel wounded from Gomez Palacio and the lesser recent fights in the vicinity are being brought north in large numbers, and it is officially admitted the Federals put up an unexpectedly strong resistance at Gomez Palacio.

EL PASO, Tex., March 25.—Miguel Diebold of the Mexican Federal Consular Service said to-day that he had been officially informed that the rebels were repulsed with heavy loss at Torreón and that some of them were driven back twenty miles.

A private letter dated Chihuahua, March 25, received to-day stated that Luis Terrazas Jr. was to be executed to-day unless he delivered the equivalent of \$250,000 in gold to Gen. Villa. THINKS VILLA'S SILENCE CONFIRMS DISASTER.

The conviction that Gen. Villa has met a serious check at Torreón is growing this afternoon as the result of the ominous silence of Villa himself regarding the battle and the receipt of disquieting private telegrams here.

J. H. Smith, a wealthy American, with large interests in Mexico, received a telegram from his partner at Mexico City to-day stating that Gen. Refugio Velasco, Federal commander at Torreón, had repulsed the assault and had driven the rebels out of Gomez Palacio. More than five hundred Constitutionalists have been slain, the telegram said.

While it is impossible to get any confirmation of this, some are inclined to credit it. The Constitutional officers at Juarez are very evidently worried. Although it was learned that they had been in direct communication with Villa's field headquarters, they refused to give

(Continued on Second Page.)

PROF. PECK BURIED BY DIVORCED WIFE WHO CRIES FOR HIM

Friends Deserted Him, She Says in Tears, When They Might Have Saved Him.

SEND SYMPATHY NOW.

His Widow Not at the Funeral, Leaving It All to the Woman She Succeeded.

(Special to The Evening World.) STAMFORD, Conn., March 25.—Harry Thuston Peck, former Columbia University professor, educator, writer and linguist, was buried today in Christ Church Cemetery, Greenwich, after simple services had been conducted by the Rev. M. George Thompson in the pretty bungalow home of Mrs. Cornelia Dawborn Peck, the professor's first wife, who married him in 1885, divorced him in 1908 and came to his rescue last May when it was thought that he was dying alone in an Ithaca hospital. Mrs. Peck, her daughter, Constance Peck, and a few neighbors were the only mourners.

Earlier in the day there had been only one person in the Peck home, the first wife of the man who shot and killed himself on Monday in a boarding house here. She kept vigil beside the coffin, and wept as she spoke to her only caller of her former husband.

It was lack of friends, failure to find work and poverty which drove Prof. Peck to suicide, said his former wife, yet according to Miss Margaret McDougall, who had acted as his secretary, the professor told her once that he had left \$100,000 in custody of a friend, a wealthy man in New York, and that he had received no answer when he wrote demanding this money.

TELEGRAMS PASSED BETWEEN THE WIVES.

Neither Mrs. Peck nor her daughter, however, place any credence in this story, both believing that had the professor actually had money in trust they would have known of it. To the last the first Mrs. Peck looked for Mrs. Elizabeth Du Bois Peck, the second wife, whose wedding to the professor occasioned the famous breach of promise suit of Esther Quinn, Peck's one time secretary, which blasted his career and shattered his health.

It was rumored that the wives were to meet beside Peck's grave to-day, but the first wife did not expect the woman who succeeded her to come. Telegrams had passed between them, courteously worded messages in which Mrs. Elizabeth Peck authorized Mrs. Cornelia Peck to "do as you think best." This was when Mrs. Peck rescued Peck's body from the boarding house where he shot himself, had it removed to her bungalow and prepared to give it burial.

SYMPATHY THAT CAME TOO LATE FOR HIM.

Mrs. Cornelia Peck, well preserved and good looking, wept to-day as she talked of her husband. In her hand was a sheaf of letters, some thirty or forty in all. They came from friends of Peck from all over the country.

"Words, ink, a two-cent stamp!" she remarked. "What do they all matter. If they had only helped him a little when he was alive. It is all so cruel and hard. He didn't deserve the treatment he received."

"Such a little might have saved him. He was without work and almost penniless. He thought he had worked for two years ahead when he began the re-editing of the International Encyclopedia. Then its publishers decided to abandon it and he was heart broken."

Mrs. Peck had only words of praise for the second wife.

FERRYBOAT FRIGHT AS STEAM SCALDS THREE PASSENGERS

Screams Fill Cabin When Head Blows Out of Heating Pipes on the Elizabeth.

NOW THE WIFE HAS 'EM.

She's Using the Epistles, Too, In Her Suit for Separation.

Mrs. Harold Todd, a young married woman living at No. 275 East Third

avenue, Roseton, N. J., and two men were badly scalded by the bursting of a steam pipe on the ferry boat Elizabeth, of the New Jersey Central line, on the 12.30 trip from Communipaw. The injured men were Samuel Rostetscher of No. 234 East 24th street, Bayonne, N. J., and Louis Meron, of No. 34 West Sixteenth street, Bayonne.

The accident occurred in the women's cabin on the lower deck, which was crowded. The cabins are heated by steam pipes running under the seats. On one of these the head was driven off by the steam pressure, and steam and water poured out. Instantly, the cabin rang with screams. Mrs. Todd and the two men were sitting close to the head and each was scalded about the legs and feet.

The men quickly jumped up and then fell to the floor. Mrs. Todd seemed incapable of motion. Then she was assisted from her seat. The deckhands rushed to the scene of the accident, but were unable to stop the flow of steam, which had to be finally shut off at its source.

The boat was near the New York side and as soon as she put into her slip at Liberty street a hurry call was sent into the Hudson Street Hospital. Dr. Valentine responded with the ambulance and gave first aid to Mrs. Todd and then turned to the men, who were taken to the Hudson Street Hospital. Mrs. Todd refused to go and waited in the ferry house until the arrival of her husband, who took her to her home.

APPOINTMENTS MADE TO-DAY BY GOV. GLYNN

John F. Farrell of New York Named Superintendent of Weights.

ALBANY, March 25.—Gov. Glynn this afternoon nominated John F. Farrell of New York to be State Superintendent of Weights and Measures to succeed Fritz Reichmann. The nomination was sent to the Finance Committee.

These nominations were also sent to the Senate:

For Trustee of the State School of Agriculture at Morrisville, the Rev. John Grimes of Syracuse (reappointed).

For Manager Kings Park State Hospital, Allie A. Rogers of Sayville, to succeed Mary M. Ackery, and Elizabeth P. Lanehart of Hempstead, to succeed Anita Owen Floyd-Jones.

For manager of the State Industrial Farm Colony, Col. Charles S. Rogers of Hudson, to succeed Isaac Dalrymple.

For Trustees of Washington's Headquarters, Francis J. Gorman of Newburgh, and Samuel V. Schoonmaker, Newburgh, were reappointed and Thomas F. Raife of Newburgh to succeed George R. Brewster.

For Manager of the New York State Woman's Relief Corps Home, Col. William A. Body of New York to succeed Susan E. Atkins.

For members of the State Board of Managers of Reformatories—William F. Rufferty, Kingston, to succeed John F. Herbert, and William C. Back of Waverly to succeed Frank H. Heornbeck.

Dividend is Reduced.

'SOULMATE' WRITES THEY'RE 'SUBJECTS OF CIRCUMSTANCES'

She Told Him to Destroy the Letters, But He Didn't Do It.

NOW THE WIFE HAS 'EM.

She's Using the Epistles, Too, In Her Suit for Separation.

Mrs. Minnie V. Vom Hofe, who is

suing Richard Vom Hofe, a stock broker, for separation, says in affidavits in the Supreme Court to-day that he and Mrs. Charlotte M. Barefield of No. 613 Boyd avenue, Woodhaven, L. I., are "subjects of circumstances" and she refers Justice Weeks to affectionate letters in which the two "subjects" used such endearing terms as "Sweetie," "Dear Soul" and "Dearest."

The letters were discovered by Mrs. Vom Hofe after she visited a hotel in Goshen, N. Y., where she alleges she found her husband and his "Dear Soul." Mrs. Vom Hofe says her husband gave Mrs. Barefield a ring and told friends they were engaged. Vom Hofe admits the ring giving, but he and Mrs. Barefield say it was a token of gratitude to Mrs. Barefield for attention she showed Vom Hofe's father, who died some time ago.

HE FAILED TO DESTROY THE LETTERS, AS SHE ASKED HIM TO.

Mrs. Barefield, who appears to have been interested in Spiritualist meetings, asked Vom Hofe to destroy the following letter—but he didn't—and here it is:

"My friend and I are going to the Spiritualist meeting again. Well, Sweetie, we enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon, did we not? Last week was surely pleasant. I do hope we will be able to meet in the afternoon. You know I will do my best."

"As we are 'subjects of circumstances,' we will have to do the best we can. Tell me, dear, do you hope for something better? What do you really hope for? It was fortunate that we met. I have been so happy for the past four months. Why not? But I presume it will be the old story after a time. You will become tired. How about it? Well, let us not look for trouble. We will go slow and everything will turn out all right. Now dear, write me three times a week and be good. Good-by and be good."

Did Vom Hofe "hope for something better?" Well, in reply, he figured it out as follows:

HE HOPED FOR NOTHING BETTER THAN HER, HE WROTE.

"Do cut out the Spiritualist; otherwise you will get a lot of nonsense in your head and worry continually. I thought of you constantly on my way home Sunday, you seemed to feel so downhearted when the time gradually came around for me to leave you—it gave me the blues too."

"I enjoyed the past week hugely; would that it were so for all time. Do you?"

"I can content myself 'most any place in your company, either day or night, alone or otherwise."

Bill to Make Goethals Lieutenant-General.

BRITISH WAR SECRETARY WHO RESIGNED, BUT WHO IS UPHELD BY ASQUITH.



ACCEPT \$387,600
BID FOR ONE OF
SIEGEL'S STORES

Gimbel Brothers or John B. Claffin to Take Simpson, Crawford Co. Stock.

The bid of \$387,600 made by Gimbel Brothers for the merchandise of the Simpson, Crawford Company store, one of the failed enterprises of Henry Siegel and Frank E. Vogel, was this afternoon conditionally accepted by Judge Hough in the United States District Court. The final determination of the matter will not be made until Monday next, the Court announced, as the bid was accepted subject to the possibility of ultimate rejection on that day.

The bid of \$45,000 by E. D. and J. D. Stein for the assets of the Merchants' Express Company was rejected by Judge Hough, who stated that the creditors might be better served in this instance by a sale by auction. The chief assets of the express company are horses and wagons.

The O'Neill Adams Company's bid of \$221,000 for the accounts receivable of the Simpson Crawford Company was likewise rejected.

As for the stock and fixtures of the Fourteenth Street Store, the court gave the opinion that a sale by auction would be the wisest course, the sale of the merchandise to be effected by departments.

In case the bid of the Gimbels does not go through, John Claffin, head of the big dry goods establishment, the H. B. Claffin Company, stands ready to take over the Simpson Crawford merchandise at the Gimbel figure.

Mr. Claffin attended the hearing before Judge Hough and presented to the Court a letter and a certified check for \$40,000 to bind the bargain.

In his letter Mr. Claffin stated in very few words that he agreed to purchase, at the price submitted by the Gimbels, if the latter should decide, for any reason, to cancel their bid. After the letter was read in court Mr. Claffin went away.

JOBBING MONOPOLY HIT.

United States Attorney Says Tobacco Firm Must Make Change.

ASQUITH HITS BACK; WARNS ARMY TO OBEY ORDERS IN IRELAND

British Premier Decides Whole Cabinet Must Stand or Fall by Seely and Refuses to Accept Resignation of War Secretary.

BIG ROW IN COMMONS;
CHURCHILL LOSES TEMPER.

Seely Assumes Responsibility for the Seeming Backdown and Makes Vigorous Defense of King.

LONDON, March 25.—Amidst the wildest confusion in the House of Commons, during which Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, completely lost his composure and was rebuked by the Speaker, the Asquith Cabinet to-day fought for its life.

The resignation of Col. J. B. Seely as Minister for War was announced on the floor. Col. Seely heatedly declared suggestions that King George had interfered in any way in the situation growing out of the refusal of army officers to serve in Ulster were without the slightest foundation. Premier Asquith placed the blame for the entire crisis on Seely, declaring the orders sent to Gen. Sir Arthur Paget in Ireland were not submitted to him. Col. Seely declared he had inadvertently misled the Cabinet with honest intent by adding the army instruction to the Cabinet document without knowing it was final.

MITCHELL ADMITS GOETHALS WON'T BE POLICE HEAD

Mayor Says Defeat of Bills in Legislature Means Colonel Won't Come.

"The Legislature has completely eliminated Col. Goethals and there isn't a chance in the world now that he will become Police Commissioner of New York," said Mayor Mitchell to-day.

This is the first admission from the Mayor that Col. Goethals is not to come here under any circumstances to head the Police Department.

"Have you decided upon any other man for Police Commissioner?" the Mayor was asked.

"Up to the present time I have not considered any one but Col. Goethals," he replied.

"There are rumors that Commissioner McKay is to go. Is that true?"

"My mind is entirely open, but I have not considered any one save the man the Legislature has just thrown out of the running."

"But there is going to be a general readjustment in the Police Department. It would be entirely wrong and unfair to both Commissioner McKay and myself to draw any inference from this statement."

"A democratic assemblyman says there is no police system and that no 'system' or anything like it helped defeat your bills," was suggested to the Mayor.

"It leaves it to the people whether there is a police system and whether they believe a 'system' was responsible for the defeat of the Goethals bills. Some people cannot be convinced in the face of any evidence."

Premier Asquith refused to accept Col. Seely's resignation. After the sympathetic reception by the House of Commons of the Secretary of War's explanation of his action regarding the army officers in Ireland, the Premier decided that he would not sacrifice his lieutenant. He declared the Cabinet as a whole must stand or fall.

HEAD OF CABINET TAKES STAND AGAINST ARMY.

The head of the Cabinet told the House of Commons that the Government had taken a firm stand in regard to the position of public servants, said he would never assent to the claim of any body of men in the service of the Crown to demand from the Government assurances of a hypothetical character as to what should be done in circumstances which had not arisen. It would, he said, be a new claim and would put the Government at the mercy of the military and naval authorities.

The Premier's pronouncement met the supporters of the Government wild. They climbed on the benches, waving papers and handkerchiefs in the accompaniment of salvos of cheers which lasted several minutes.

"The Government would never assent to the officers' distinction as to their duties," declared the Premier. "This would put the Government at the mercy of the army and navy."

"The Government has no apologies to make on account of the natural and perfectly proper steps taken for the preservation of order in Ireland, in view of the fact Sir Edward Carson claims to have organized and equipped 100,000 men to resist Home Rule."

Premier Asquith said he joined in the regret of Col. Seely at the "most unfair, improper and inconsistent" attempts to bring the name of the King into the controversy. From first to last His Majesty had preserved every rule which comported with his dignity and his position as a constitutional sovereign.

The Premier explained that in the reply to Gen. Gough prepared by the Cabinet the Ministers had carefully abstained from giving the army officers any assurance.

Continuing, Mr. Asquith said: "I am strongly of the opinion that the Government has not the

FOR RACING SEE PAGE 14